

**In the Claims**

The following listing of the claims replaces all previous listings.

1. (Previously Presented) A detection and evacuation system, for use in a home, the system comprising:
  - a) at least one sensor assembly for detecting contamination of a contaminate in ambient air, the sensor assembly including a communication device that produces a first emergency signal upon determining the existence of a pre-determined level of toxic contamination;
  - b) a central processor, the central processor including:
    - i) a receiving device for receiving the first emergency signal from the communication device of the sensor assembly; and
    - ii) at least one transmitter capable of transmitting a second emergency signal;
  - c) at least one deactivation device energized in response to the second emergency signal from the central processor transmitter, the deactivation device operating to suspend operation of an appliance; and
  - d) at least one activation device energized in response to the second emergency signal from the central processor transmitter, the activation device operating to reduce the level of toxic contamination within the home.
2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the sensor assembly and the central processor form a single unit construction.
3. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the system includes a plurality of sensor assemblies, each of the sensors being in electronic communication with the central processor.
4. (Original) The system of claim 3, wherein one of each of the sensor assemblies is located proximate one of a plurality of appliances for isolated contamination detection.

5. (Original) The system of claim 4, wherein each of the plurality of appliances has a corresponding one of a plurality of deactivation devices to suspend operation of the appliance.
6. (Original) The system of claim 5, wherein the first emergency signal produced by each of the sensor assemblies is identifiable by the central processor to identify the sensor assembly from which the first emergency signal is produced.
7. (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein the second emergency signal of the central processor energizes only the deactivation device corresponding to the appliance proximately located to the sensor assembly that produced the first emergency signal.
8. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the deactivation device includes a shut-off mechanism, and wherein the first appliance is a gas-operated appliance, the shut-off mechanism operating to suspend gas flow to the gas-operated appliance.
9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 39, wherein the messaging unit is a telephone unit capable of dialing an emergency number and playing a pre-recorded message upon receipt of the second emergency signal from the central processor.
10. (Original) The system of claim 1, further including an air evacuation apparatus to assist in reducing the level of toxic contamination within the home.
11. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the air evacuation apparatus includes a breakage mechanism, a barrier, and a blower, and wherein the activation device activates the breakage mechanism and the blower upon receipt of the second emergency signal from the central processor.
12. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the barrier is a plastic barrier designed to break upon impact of the breakage mechanism.

13. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the blower expels contaminated air from the home.
14. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the blower vents non-contaminated air into the home.
15. (Original) The detection and evacuation system of claim 1, wherein the contaminate is a toxic gas.
16. (Original) The detection and evacuation system of claim 15, wherein the toxic gas is carbon monoxide.
17. (Previously Presented) A contamination detection system for monitoring conditions within a monitored area, the system comprising:
- a) a plurality of sensor means positioned within the monitored area for analyzing ambient air conditions to determine if an emergency situation exists, each of the plurality of sensor means capable of generating a first emergency signal upon detection of contaminated air;
  - b) a central monitoring means, the central monitoring means capable of receiving the first emergency signal from each of the sensor means and generating a second emergency signal in response to the first emergency signal;
  - c) means for activating an air evacuation device for evacuating contaminated air upon receipt of the second emergency signal from the central monitoring means; and
  - d) means for deactivating an appliance upon receipt of the second emergency signal from the central monitoring means.
- 18.-38. (Canceled)
39. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a messaging unit energized in response to the second emergency signal from the central processor transmitter, the messaging

unit operating to notify emergency personnel that the sensor assembly has detected the pre-determined level of toxic contamination.

40. (Original) The system of claim 17, further comprising means for alerting emergency personnel upon receipt of the second emergency signal from the central monitoring means.